

# WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1854.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE RESOLUTIONS.

The House of Representatives of New Hampshire on Wednesday last passed the subjoined resolutions, which were introduced at the beginning of the session, and have been since from time to time discussed. It will be seen that although neither of the resolutions was voted upon by a full House, which consists of 310 members, yet all of them (except the fourth) received the affirmative vote of a majority of the whole number of members:

**Resolved**, That the State of New Hampshire reaffirms the principles promulgated by her House of Representatives in 1850: "the people are bound by no compact, expressed or implied, to suffer the introduction of slavery into territory now free, and that they are unalterably opposed to the creation of any territory without its prohibition by positive law." [Adopted, yeas 103, nays 118.]

**Resolved**, That the repeal of the Missouri Compromise was in violation of those principles; was unnecessary, impolitic; a breach of faith with the North, dangerous and wrong. [Adopted, yeas 105, nays 110.]

**Resolved**, That the course of Harry Hibbard, Moses Norris, and Jared W. Williams, the other members of our delegation, in voting for such repeal, was in opposition to the wishes of the people of the State, treacherous to freedom and the great cause of equality and human rights, and meets our decided reprobation. [Adopted, yeas 102, nays 117.]

Thursday a fourth trial took place in the House to elect a United States Senator, every member being present. After two ballots without effecting a choice the House adjourned. The highest vote received by JOHN S. WELLS, the Administration candidate, was 148, being eight votes short of an election.

On the next day the balloting was continued, and eleven ballots having been taken without effecting a choice, the election was indefinitely postponed by a vote of 159 to 147.

The North Carolina Whigs have nominated a candidate for Governor who, about these times, would be a good one for the Connecticut Abolitionists. We allude to Mr. DOCKERY, who, while a member of the State Convention of North Carolina, voted against the exclusion of negroes from the right of suffrage.—*Washington Union*.

Whether from ignorance of the subject or design, we cannot say, but the above paragraph is so framed as to make a false impression on persons out of the State of North Carolina. The question of giving the right of suffrage to negroes, generally, was never entertained in the Convention of North Carolina. Under the first Constitution of the State down to the year 1835, when it was remodelled, all men born free, whether white or black, possessed the right of suffrage. The Convention of 1835 deprived all persons of negro blood of this right; and it was upon the question whether the right should be continued to the free-born of that class or not that Gen. DOCKERY must have voted, if he voted at all. Many members of the Convention opposed the immediate withdrawal of the privilege from those of the race then in the possession of it.

The same thing happened in the State of New York some years ago, when a Convention was held to amend the Constitution. A leading Democratic Delegate, afterwards nominated for and elected to the Presidency, voted against excluding negroes (free of course) from the right of suffrage.

The Legislature of CONNECTICUT adjourned *sine die* on Saturday last, after a two months' session. On Friday the House rejected, by a vote of 68 to 99, a bill from the Senate which proposed to repeal the act allowing temporary residents in Connecticut to retain their slaves. On the same day the House also rejected, by a vote of 63 to 70, a bill from the Senate which proposed to refuse the use of the State prisons for the confinement of fugitive slaves.

**POLITICS IN MASSACHUSETTS**.—The call for a Mass Convention in Massachusetts for the purpose of forming a new party of such members of all old parties as sympathize in sentiment in relation to the repeal of the Missouri compromise is not responded to by Whig papers, but is generally regarded by them as a premature and ill-advised movement.

**THE NAVAL SCHOOLS AT ANNAPOLIS**.—The annual Examination at this Academy, which has lately closed, was of the most gratifying character; and the class of young Officers just graduated have by their attainments in nautical science, &c. reflected upon themselves the highest credit, and shown their worthiness of the fostering care bestowed on them by the Officers of the Institution.

On Thursday last the school-ship *Preble* sailed from Hampton Roads with forty midshipmen on board, who will pass the summer on the ocean in acquiring practically a knowledge of all the duties of seamen. Before her return to our shores the *Preble* will make a brief visit to the great naval stations of Plymouth and Portsmouth, in England, and Brest and Cherbourg, on the coast of France.

The visit of our young seamen to these establishments will serve not only to instruct them, but also to impress them with the power of our great rivals; and thus early awaken in them an honorable emulation and a just sense of the responsibilities to which they aspire, and which it may be their high privilege to share.

It is much to be regretted that time did not admit of the cruise of the *Preble* being extended to the Baltic, which now bears upon its waters the most magnificent fleet that ever lifted anchor, and displays to naval officers a school of instruction and observation such as has never been opened to them before.

An earnest desire is thus very laudably manifested by the Secretary of the Navy to rear up a corps of officers every way qualified to sustain the naval character of the Republic. There is no Department of the Government which might be made to yield a richer harvest of personal fame and of public good than that over which he presides.

The business of the *Philadelphia Mint* is certainly prosecuted with great efficiency. We find by the report for June that in the twenty-six working days of that month the coinage struck in that establishment amounted to about four million pieces of gold and silver, besides near a million of copper coins, the total value of the pieces struck amounting to \$3,854,275. This is not mentioned as an extraordinary month's work; we believe it is about the average of what is done every month.

## REASON versus PANATISM.

An eminent and greatly esteemed Clergyman of Boston having, in a public sermon, taken strong ground against the recognition or execution of the fugitive slave law in Massachusetts, the *Boston Courier*, in a calm and sensible article, argues the point with the reverend gentleman. We extract from the *Courier's* remarks the annexed passages:

"Dr. — seems to feel that there is some kind of degradation of our soil in permitting a fugitive slave to be arrested upon and removed from it. He speaks of our soil being 'trampled by those whose attempts to reclaim their fugitive servants are conducted in a manner to wound our sensibilities and provoke our passions'; and he says that we must 'proceed to rescue our soil' from being so trampled."

"Undoubtedly our soil is consecrated to freedom. But is it consecrated to freedom for all men? What consecrates it to freedom for all? Is it not so consecrated by the law? And is it not so consecrated just so far as the law has impressed that character upon it, and no further? We presume that this will be admitted by all. The soil of Massachusetts is not consecrated to freedom by the general sentiment or feelings of its inhabitants; it is consecrated to freedom by the laws which they have ordained for its government, and just so far as those laws determine the condition of those who are on it. But when we are looking for the laws which determine the condition of persons upon our soil, it is obviously just as necessary to look to the Constitution of the United States as it is to look to the Constitution of the State. The Federal Constitution is just as much the law of Massachusetts as its own Constitution; it was enacted by the same authority, (so far as we are concerned), and not an individual can hold any important office under the latter without swearing to support the former. Moreover, the Constitution of the United States, so far as it speaks upon this matter of the condition of persons found on our soil, as well as upon all other matters embraced in it, is paramount to all laws. It is impossible for the State to make a law which shall consecrate its soil to the freedom of men who are made by the Constitution of the United States incapable of acquiring freedom by coming within our jurisdiction. In the same manner it would be impossible for us to make a law consecrating the soil of the State to the freedom of men whom the General Government has stipulated by treaty to deliver up to a foreign nation."

"The proposition is not true, therefore, that our soil is consecrated to the freedom of all men. There are certain men who are excepted from this advantage by the operation of the fundamental and paramount law of the country, which determines the character of our soil as to them; and while this remains, so there can be no de-consecration of our soil by removing those persons from it."

"But Dr. — seems also to feel that by permitting the execution of this clause of the Constitution we lend some sanction to slavery. He speaks of 'a deeper question' to arise, 'when the Southern master shall use the free States as the ground on which to assert the immaculate character of slavery,' and of our 'becoming ready participants in upholding a system which we abhor; and he precepts us to the alternative of dissolution."

"We must inquire, therefore, and we must do it calmly and solemnly, whether it is true that our soil is used as the ground on which 'to assert the immaculate character of slavery,' or is in danger of being so used; and whether, by continuing to obey the Constitution, we do in fact become 'participants in upholding the system.' That slavery exists in the Southern States Dr. — does not deny. He says expressly that we cannot ignore its existence. He will probably not deny that it exists there by a law, or system of laws, over which we have no control and for which we have no responsibility. One of the persons subject to those laws comes here and the master comes to reclaim him. Does he ask us to admit the immaculate character of the institution? Does he require anything of us except the admission of the fact that by the law of his own State he is entitled to the services of the person whom he seeks?"

"But it is always some help to the examination of a position like this to resort to cases of a similar character, and we therefore turn to a case to which Dr. —'s position ought to be applicable, if it is applicable to this case. A treaty exists with a foreign Power, by which it is provided that fugitives charged with certain crimes shall be given up. The foreign Government calls upon us to give up one of its subjects charged with the commission of one of those crimes in the territory of that Government. The law which makes his act a crime, which defines the evidence and the mode of trial and affixes the punishment, is the law of that country, not of this. Are we called upon, when we are required to surrender that person, to admit any thing whatever respecting the justice, reasonableness, or righteousness of that law? Is it 'immaculate character' asserted on our soil? It is plain that nothing is asserted and nothing is admitted but the facts that the law exists and that the individual in question is the person who is amenable to it."

**SANDWICH ISLANDS**.—South Carolina, to employ an expressive vulgarism, "smells a rat" in the proposition to annex the Sandwich Islands to the United States—said to have been received by the Government by the last steamer from California. It has been stated that a treaty for the purpose had been formed by our Commissioner at the Court of this Potentate, but the *Niles* says:

"We know not where the authority could have been derived for entering on such a negotiation. European nations will not believe that it is a voluntary act of the King of the Sandwich Islands and his Legislature, but that there has been some finesse of diplomacy in bringing about the result. What a theme such a transaction will re-open for strictures by the English and French press against the grasping spirit of the trans-Atlantic 'model republic'! We confess we do not like this initiation of the colonial system among us; for call it a Territory or a State, as we may, these islands would, in all the essentials of one, constitute a colony."

**THE NEW ENGLAND CLEBOT**.—The committee appointed by the meeting of clergymen in Boston during anniversary week to confer with clergymen of all denominations in regard to the expediency of calling a Convention of the New England clergy to consult as to their duty in the present crisis of freedom in our country have decided that it is inexpedient to hold such a convention.

A public meeting was held at Baltimore on Thursday evening, at which arrangements were made for collecting funds for the relief of the sufferers by the late terrible railroad disaster. Many of them were mechanics and artisans, dependant upon their daily labor. Contributions will be received from a distance, and should be addressed to "Col. RICHARD FRANK, Baltimore."

**FROM THE WESTERN PLAINS**.—The Salt Lake mail arrived at Independence (Mo.) on the 30th June. There is no news of consequence from Salt Lake Valley. The progress of the trading trains and emigrants over the plains had been somewhat impeded by the great amount of rain that had fallen. The Indians had been troublesome to some of the parties, and sickness resembling cholera had broken out in different trains between Fort Kearny and Fort Laramie, from which many of the hands and emigrants had died. The emigration of this year is not half as numerous as that of preceding years.

The following advertisement from the "Richmond Whig" speaks for itself:

**JESSE'S TEXAS**.—A general meeting of persons interested in the Jennings' Estate will be held in Lynchburg, on Friday, the 14th instant. This meeting is called at the request of the Corbin family, by James Corbin and others residing in this county, and a general attendance of all the Corbins is particularly requested on that occasion.

**PROTECTION OF THE TEXAN FRONTIER**.—We hear that the President has authorized orders to be transmitted to the General in command of the United States military district of Texas to accept the services of any number of volunteers the exigencies of the situation of his charge may render necessary, and to provide them, at the charge of the War Department, with the requisite arms, ammunition, and provisions. This Executive action will very speedily give impetus to the Texan frontiers, and render all safe upon it.—*Sent.*

## PREEMPTION ETHICS.

The annexed extracts, taken from an article in the leading Democratic journal of New Orleans, are in open and formal defence of the invasion of Cuba by private and unauthorized adventurers, raised and organized within the limits of the United States. The reasoning of the writer is as weak as his principles are reprehensible. "It is very hard indeed that treaties or any other laws should have any control over individual action, when individual action is gloriously employed in seizing by force and arms the rich plantations of a neighboring and friendly Power. That Executive proclamations and Judicial denunciations should be offensive to such disinterested patriotism, or that the judgments of the Chief Justice should be thought 'too fine spun' for such philanthropic ethics, we are not surprised at; but to see a comparison instituted between Lafayette and Lopez is too heavy a draft on one's patience."

FROM THE LOUISIANA COURIER.

In another column will be found the charge of Justice Campbell to the Grand Jury empanelled to inquire whether any acts violative of the provisions of the neutrality laws had been committed in this District.

That the management of the foreign relations of the American Union has been confided to the Federal Executive, and that all treaties entered into by it, with the concurrence of the Senate, with foreign States, and within the limits of the powers conferred upon it by the Constitution, are obligatory upon the citizens of the country, are propositions which will not be disputed; but whether treaties have the controlling effect on individual action ascribed to them by the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States is a proposition as to which men may well differ. For ourselves, we consider the doctrine enunciated by Chief Justice Taney, in the case of *Kennett and others vs. Chamble*, 14 Howard's Reports, as rather too finely spun, and of a somewhat transcendental nature.

With the positions of Judge Campbell, defining what constitutes the offence under the act of 1818, in organizing, setting on foot, &c. a military expedition or enterprise against a Power, or its dominions with which our country is at peace, we are not disposed to cavil. In the main, his language is justified by the words of the statute. But we cannot view it as other than a stretch of judicial interpretation to say that those who, by addresses or essays, incite persons to join any expedition, are often among the most guilty, and are to be regarded as aiders and abettors. This doctrine, in our humble opinion, would tend to a restriction of thought and speech, wholly inconsistent with our theory of Government; and if every man who, moved by sympathy with the oppressed, or an unalloyed love of freedom, speaks in favor of the emancipation of the one or the extension of the other, and at the same time applauds the conduct of Lafayette, Kosciuszko, Pulaski, and Steuben toward our forefathers in their struggle for independence, is to be considered as an aider and abettor of a violation of neutrality, we rather think that our prisons would not hold the offenders after conviction, and that many of them would be missed from the halls of Congress and of many State Legislatures.

Happily for the cause of freedom and humanity, the people of the Mississippi valley have not yet got so far advanced in civilization, or so refined in political morals, as to consider the examples of a Lafayette and a Kosciuszko unworthy of the admiration and imitation of American youth; and should the poor down-trodden Cubans once make an effort to throw off the yoke of their oppressors, they will soon see their ranks swollen by strong arms and brave hearts, which first moved and throbbed on the banks of the Mississippi, and whose movements will not be curbed by Executive proclamations, or guided by judicial interpretations. The attempt to do so will be as successful as to keep the mighty flood within its banks by levees of straw.

The Louisville Journal states that Gen. WM. O. BUTLER has written a letter to the Executive declining the office of Governor of Nebraska, to which he has just been appointed.

**DEATH OF WILLIAM HENRY HARRIS**.—The Galena and St. Louis papers notice the death of the above-named gentleman, which took place at Galena, Illinois, on the 20th ultimo. He was an early settler of St. Louis, and a brother of the Hon. EDWARD HENRY HARRIS, the first Delegate in Congress from the Territory of Missouri. He removed from St. Louis to Galena many years ago, and was a pioneer of the Upper Mississippi lead mines, and the contemporary of Gov. DOUGLASS, of Wisconsin, and Gen. JONES, of Iowa, both of the United States Senate, in developing the vast mineral wealth of that country. He is represented as a man of great directness of character, of a sound and clear judgment, and of unspotted integrity. He was the proprietor of the celebrated Shullsburg mines, supposed to be the richest lead mines in the United States.

**RAILROAD ACCIDENT**.—On Monday afternoon a terrible accident occurred on the western end of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, at a distance of about fifteen miles beyond Lebanon, Illinois. The construction train was passing out to the end of the road as far as it is constructed, laden with five or six car loads of the heavy T rail, and when passing over eight or ten hundred feet of trestle-work which crosses the Creek River, the cars were hurled over the side and precipitated three or four of the cars, with a number of laboring hands, upon the ground, some fifteen or sixteen feet below. The smash-up was terrible, and fifteen or sixteen persons were badly injured, one of whom died a short time after the accident.

**PROGRESS OF THE CHOLERA**.—There were 357 deaths in Cincinnati last month, including 45 from cholera. The epidemic has broken out a second time at Shepherdsville, Ky., and 19 persons have died. The place is now nearly deserted. Nashville is nearly free of cholera. At Toledo, Ohio, it is said to be raging most fearfully, carrying off 10 or 15 persons each day. At a small village opposite Toledo 27 deaths had occurred up to Sunday evening.

At the firing of a salute on the Fourth at Trenton (N. J.) Washington Reginald and Jacob Storms were badly injured by the accidental discharge of one of the guns. Mr. Reginald's arm was amputated above the wrist at once, and it is said Mr. Storm's arm will be amputated.

In each of the cities of New York, Albany, Philadelphia, and Baltimore there have been several deaths from cholera, and in some cases the victims have been in Virginia, we observe, a few deaths have occurred in the harvest fields from the same cause.

The dwelling house of Mr. Daniel Wells, in the upper part of Alexandria county, was destroyed by fire on Thursday morning. Mr. Wells is a worthy farmer, and the loss to him is very considerable.

The Methodist Episcopal Seminary at Richmondville, Schuylar county, (N. Y.) was destroyed by fire on Friday last—loss \$30,000. This is the second time it has been burnt. The act is attributed to incendiarism, and one of the students is under arrest upon this serious charge.

**A WILL WRECK**.—The Mason will case, involving \$20,000 worth of property, which has occupied Worcester county (Md.) Circuit Court for the last three weeks, has been disposed of by a verdict against its validity, on the ground of fraud and undue influence of the testator.

Mr. SHEPHERD, the actor who lost his life by the burning of the Theatre at Philadelphia, had time to escape with the other performers, but became a sacrifice by having stopped to change his clothes. He was about 28 years of age, and much respected by those who knew him.

The Westminster (Md.) Carroltonian says in the north-east part of Carroll county several liquor stills have lately been broken up and sold for old copper. The same has been done in Adams and York counties, Pennsylvania.

Three thousand seven hundred German emigrants passed through Rochester one day last week on their way to the West, bound for Oregon, Nebraska, and Kansas.

Mr. MADISON JEFFERS, who was dangerously wounded by the late accident on the Susquehanna railroad, is not dead, as reported, but is improving.

Joshua Elets, late postmaster at New Vineyard, has been sentenced by the United States District Court of Maine, in session at Bangor, to the State prison for ten years, for circulating letters containing one hundred and fifty dollars.

**THE PANHANDLE RAILROAD**.—The opening of the Panhandle Railroad, through Brooke county, to the Pennsylvania line, was to be celebrated by a grand demonstration on the 4th of July.

## SQUATTER SOVEREIGNTY.

The Missouri papers bring us the proceedings of two more meetings, recently held in Kansas Territory, at which resolutions were adopted having in view the exclusion of settlers from the Free States. The proceedings of these persons, who are themselves nothing more than intruders, are of course unlawful, but we chronicle them that the people of all sections may know the progress of the things in the new Territory. The Glasgow (Mo.) Times says that a determined effort is to be made to introduce slavery into Kansas, while there is a general disposition to let Nebraska be free. The Indians are very much dissatisfied with the influx of the whites, and it is said that three white men have already been killed. It is not stated, however, whether these homicides resulted from contentions with the Indians or amongst the white immigrants. It would seem, from the contents of some of the newspapers published on the border of Missouri, that much excitement, violence, and bloodshed are apprehended.

We subjoin the resolutions adopted by the meeting at "Whitehead," held on the 24th of June, which are the same as those adopted by a meeting held opposite Milton's Ferry on the 17th of June:

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Kansas Territory, intending to fix our homes upon this fertile soil, have this day met at Whitehead, for the purpose of taking measures to secure safety, certainty, and fairness in the location and preservation of claims, be it resolved:

1. That we are in favor of *bona fide* squatter sovereignty, and acknowledge the right of any citizen of the United States to make a claim in Kansas Territory, with the ultimate view of occupying it.

2. That such claim when made should be held inviolate, and as long as the location of occupying it is apparent, and for the purpose of protecting and defending such claims, we agree to act in concert, if necessary, to expel intruders.

3. That any person of lawful age, or who may be the head of a family, who shall mark out his claim of 160 acres of land, shall be entitled to the same title, and shall be deemed to have made a proper claim.

4. That any person marking out his claim shall be deemed to have forfeited it unless he commences his claim or pitches his tent within thirty days thereafter, unless the same shall be on such lands as prohibit it by military or local laws.

5. That all persons now holding claims shall have thirty days from this day in which to make the improvements contemplated by the foregoing resolutions.

6. That no person shall be protected by the Squatter Association which holds in its right more than one claim.

7. That any person building his cabin or tent within less than half a mile of another shall be deemed an intruder.

8. That a citizen of the Territory be appointed as Register of Claims, who shall keep a book, in which he shall enter the names of all squatters and their claims, and the date of the same, for which he shall be allowed the sum of fifty cents for each claim, to be paid by the claimant.

9. That the bona fide purchaser of a claim located and registered be recognized as entitled to the same, under the laws of this association, provided his intention be to occupy the same as a citizen of this Territory.

10. That we will afford protection to no abolitionist as a citizen of this Territory.

11. That we recognize the institution of slavery as already existing in this Territory, and recommend to squatters to introduce their property as early as practicable.

12. That a Vigilance Committee be appointed by the chair, consisting of thirteen members of this association, whose duty it shall be to decide upon all disputes in relation to the location of claims, and to render aid in their judgments, in regard to rightful claimants, shall have power to call together the entire Squatter Association.

13. That all persons who wish to become members of the "Squatter Association" shall subscribe to the foregoing preamble and resolutions.

After the above resolutions were adopted the meeting appointed JAMES R. WHITEHEAD Register of Claims. A Vigilance Committee was also appointed, consisting of John H. Whitehead, Samuel P. Blair, Thomas W. Watson, Carey B. Whitehead, James O. Tool, Henderson Smallwood, Anderson Cox, John M. Smith, sen., Samuel Montgomery, Benjamin Harding, John Keaton, Joseph Licellif, and John W. Smith, jr.

The President of the meeting was then directed to appoint five delegates to the General Territorial Convention, to be held at Salt Creek on the 4th day of July; whereupon, Captain John H. Whitehead, Benjamin Wharton, Albert Head, Samuel P. Blair, and John R. Carter were appointed said delegation.

The meeting then adjourned to meet in four weeks (twelve miles from the site of a prospective city, about five miles from St. Joseph, Mo., and Milton's Ferry is about fifteen miles above Weston, Mo.)

A letter from New York says that the Schuyler failure in that city is variously regarded—by some as being a storm which may clear the railway atmosphere of some of its most serious embarrassments; by others as only one, and not the last, of the severe shocks which financial confidence in the condition of the times is now subject to. The New York Evening Post has the following announcement:

"A much greater sensation than was occasioned by the announcement of the Messrs. Schuyler's failure has been created by the discovery, which was made late on Monday evening, that stock in the New Haven Railroad—of which Mr. Robert Schuyler is President and Transfer Agent—had been issued to the enormous amount of nineteen hundred thousand dollars."

THE WHEELING BRIDGE.—A card appears in the Wheeling Intelligencer from CHARLES ELLY, the engineer of the Wheeling bridge, noticing the injunction issued by Judge Grant, commanding him to abstain from putting any wire, timber, bridge, or any thing whatever across the Ohio river at a less elevation than is provided for in the decree of the Supreme Court entered in May, 1852, in which Mr. ELLY states that if he is "not obstructed by the Court the repairs of the Wheeling bridge will be so far advanced that the structure may be again opened to general travel and the transit of the United States mails in two weeks from this date."

The bills of mortality of New York city show an increase in the last six months, compared with the same months of 1853, of more than 17 per cent. in the number of deaths. The leading points of increase are in cholera, consumption, convulsions, diarrhoea, dropsy in the head, marasmus, measles, and small pox.

**TERMINAL HURRICANE IN ILLINOIS**.—A correspondent of the Missouri Republican, writing from Manteo, Kanaksee county, under date of Saturday, June 24th, says:

"A terrible hurricane overtook this place last evening from a north-easterly direction, extending some six or eight miles in width. In its course an immense deal of damage was done; houses blown down and torn from their foundations, roofs blown off and carried from fifty to a hundred rods. Much property was destroyed, but no human life was lost."

"Thirty or forty buildings that I have heard of have been blown down or much damaged. Not a building in its course but bears strong marks of its fury."

**GERMAN ELEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES**.—The New York Star's Zeitung, one of the ablest German papers published in this country, has lately devoted its columns to the discussion of the question: "The Future of the German Element in the United States." The writer speaks with freedom of the facts of his country, and with an evident knowledge of the American people shows to the Germans the evils they may bring upon themselves and the remedy they need to avert them. We avail ourselves of the translation by the Journal of Commerce to present some extracts from this German writer, which will be read with interest. He frankly tells his countrymen:

"Germans need self-knowledge and modesty. We are enthusiastic for liberty; yet have scarcely given any other proof of our devotion to it than demanding free license to do as we please. We are not content with political rights, and demonstrate it by words, abstract platforms, and a good share of shamelessness in our judgments."

In another place he says: "Let us cease the eagerness of those who, barely landed on our shores, begin to pry the works out of the foundations. We have time for agitation to distribute—yes, even to annihilate—the freest and best existing form of government, in order to substitute for it an ideal of fancy or the product of some philosophical or unphilosophical theory."

Again: "We condemn some of our half-witted countrymen who, before they have overstepped the boundaries of New York city, before their knowledge of the country extends beyond the view of the living torrents in the streets, and the alternate dreaming-donkey of Germans in the beer shops; before they know English enough to read a paper or to converse with an American, begin already to speak contemptuously of the New World."

## DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT PHILADELPHIA.

About ten o'clock on Wednesday night a fire broke out in the National Theatre, at the corner of Ninth and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia, which proved terribly disastrous. It originated during the performance of Putnam, and was caused (one account says) by some one on the stage attempting to light a match by rubbing it against the scenery. Another account says that it originated from the wadding of the muskets used at the close of the play of Putnam, setting fire to the scenery, which in a moment became a mass of flame.

The alarm was soon communicated to the audience, and great confusion ensued; but fortunately the extreme heat of the weather prevented a large attendance, and all escaped with their lives.

The combustible nature of the building and its contents soon caused a tremendous light and blaze, shedding its lurid glare over a large portion of the city. The firemen were promptly on the ground, but no human efforts could prevent the destruction of the theatre. The stores, half a dozen in number, in the basement of the circus, were involved in the destruction, and so rapidly did the flames extend that a very small portion of their contents could be saved. Among them were a toy store, a confectionary, a philosophical instrument maker, a cigar store and a drinking saloon, and one or two others.

The substantial part of dwellings, once the residences of the first families, but since converted into stores, were early marked out as a prey to the flames, and at one time the roof of so many had been kindled by the flakes from the consuming theatre that the destruction of the entire row east as far as Eighth street was deemed to be inevitable. These stores were all first-class establishments, and contained stocks of goods of immense value, and the police officers, firemen, and citizens lent their aid in saving what could be carried out. They were occupied by J. A. Place, dry goods; J. S. Eddy, picture dealer and frame maker, and the second floor by Bodie & Co., hair dressers; Thomas Evans & Co., dry goods; R. W. Fraser, dry goods on the first floor, and Mrs. Burke's millinery establishment on the second; next to the Art Union building, Nos. 214 and 208, occupied partly by the Art Union Gallery and by G. P. Mercer, picture dealer, and frame maker, and by Boutelle Brothers; Milliken's linen store; E. Clinton, fancy goods; Everett's jewelry store; Wm. S. Mason, engraver; L. Ladomus, jeweller; and Herman Hooker, bookseller. All these buildings were more or less injured.

The rear of the houses on the west side of Eighth street, including the Waverley Hotel, Bell Hotel, George Reiblich, patent lock manufacturer; George R. Fisher, tailor; O. C. Nicholson, dry goods store; S. H. Scholl, eating house.

The Chinese Museum building caught from the rear of the theatre, and the flames gradually spread along its cornice and window frames, until at midnight this immense building was enveloped in flames. The settees and other fixtures of the building were removed as hastily as possible when the prospect of its demolition seemed inevitable. It was constructed in 1838, designed as the Philadelphia Museum. Its walls are 228 feet in length by 70 feet wide, which were the dimensions of the upper saloon. The lower saloon was originally used for the exhibition of Mr. Dunn's Chinese Collection. Its dimensions were 100 feet by 70 feet, and three feet by seventy, and at the rear of it a lecture room.

The fire also extended across Sanson street at Ninth, to the Bazaar or Auction establishment of Mr. Herkness, for the sale of horses and carriages. This was a large circular building, originally constructed for the exhibition of the collection of the late Mr. Herkness, and was managed to check the flames at this point, and, although not yet entirely extinguished, the building will probably be saved.

At one o'clock, when we were forced to close our report, the theatre house bell was still pealing out the alarm, but the fire had been extinguished by great exertions by the firemen, and there is but little danger of their extending east of Eighth or south of Sanson streets.

It is almost vain to attempt a calculation of the entire loss, and at best it can be but a mere guess. The estimate cannot be less than \$300,000, and may reach \$500,000.

MR. SHEPHERD, an actor, unfortunately perished in the theatre. Several firemen were badly hurt, but none fatally.—*Ledger*.

## FRAUDS UPON STOCKHOLDERS.

It was stated under our telegraphic head yesterday that the fraudulent practice had been created in New York on Wednesday in consequence of the discovery of a large over-issue of stock of the New Haven Railroad Company. The discovery was made on Monday afternoon, and made public on Wednesday morning by three of the directors. It appears that A. Vandewater, the book-keeper, has admitted the over-issue, which is a monthly bill for the amount of one thousand shares, and various other times between eight and nine thousand shares, altogether about nineteen thousand shares, representing \$1,900,000, had been transferred by the transfer agent, who is Mr. Robert Schuyler, into the hands of Messrs. Bond & G. L. Schuyler, by whom the stock was hypothecated. It will be recollected that the firm of R. & G. L. Schuyler failed only last week for a very large sum. The Post of Wednesday afternoon says:

"Mr. George Schuyler is wholly ignorant of the financial condition of the company, which is a monthly bill for the amount of one thousand shares, and various other times between eight and nine thousand shares, altogether about nineteen thousand shares, representing \$1,900,000, had been transferred by the transfer agent, who is Mr. Robert Schuyler, into the hands of Messrs. Bond & G. L. Schuyler, by whom the stock was hypothecated. It will be recollected that the firm of R. & G. L. Schuyler failed only last week for a very large sum. The Post of Wednesday afternoon says:

"The legal capital of the company is \$3,000,000, in thirty thousand shares. The stock now in market amounts to forty-nine thousand shares, representing \$4,900,000."

"The directors of the company will, as we learn, order the books of transfer to be immediately closed, and the certificates of stock outstanding to be called in for registration, so as to ascertain the real extent and condition of the company, as it is possible a still greater amount of shares may have been issued."

"This discovery is a great check to credit and confidence. The directors will be obliged to call in the certificates, and learn that a lot of the spurious stock was pledged to Cornelius Vanderbilt, who has advanced some five or six hundred thousand dollars upon it."

The directors of the road met on Wednesday, and the result of their deliberations was the publication of a notice, in which they say:

"It has been made apparent, on a hasty examination of the stock books, which have been kept by the late President, Robert Schuyler, as transfer agent in New York, that, by means of a report of the same, the stock of the company, an issue of illegal and fraudulent stock has been made within a few months past to the amount, as nearly as can now be ascertained, of nearly twenty thousand shares, or two millions of dollars. A rigid examination will be immediately made, by order of the directors, of the books and papers, and the result, when accurately ascertained, will be made public."

Robert Schuyler sent in his resignation as President of the road to the meeting, which was accepted. The Post further adds:

"At the Board of Directors this morning the stock was not called, it being resolved to do nothing in it until official report was made by the directors of the New Haven road."